The members further urged that, as the formalities to be gone through before a tree can be tapped necessarily take time, several bagani trees could not be tapped at all as delay is fatal to successful tapping. They therefore requested that the tree tax system might be either wholly abolished or so modified as to suit the peculiar conditions of the malnad and pointed out that this may be done without any loss of revenue to Government.

Reply of Government.—The whole question will be carefully considered and a decision arrived at in due course.

SUBJECT No. 206.

Payment of excise revenue to inamdars.

Messrs. Madappa and V. Raghavachar, Mysore Taluk. A. Anniah Pandit, District Board, Mysore.

Summary of discussion.—Even though the right of certain inamdars to toddy revenue in their villages has been acknowledged by Government, the money has not yet been paid. It may be ordered to be paid at once. If this be not possible, at least three-fourths of the amount of the bills may be paid in advance.

Reply of Government.—The revision of the rules is under consideration and early orders will be passed.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL BOARDS

(Nos. 207-222.)

SUBJECT No. 207.

Annual municipal meetings.

Mr. Y. Narniah, Chikballapur Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Deputy Commissioners may be requested to preside over the last monthly meeting of every year of the different municipalities with a view to discuss urgent and important subjects.

Reply of Government.—No hard and fast rule can be laid down. Deputy Commissioners are not the Presidents of all the Municipalities in the district and cannot therefore preside at the meetings of those Municipal Councils of which they are not the Presidents. Although not Presidents, Deputy Commissioners have powers of control over all municipalities within their districts.

SUBJECT No. 208.

Formation of unions.

Mr. Seenappa, Hoskote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—There is a Government order that all taluk head quarters in the State whose population is less than 5,000 should be made into unions. The formation into unions of all such taluk headquarters is likely to affect the prestige of the headquarters.

This matter was represented in 1907 and Government were pleased to say that due consideration would be bestowed on the subject. As yet no orders in the matter have been passed; it is requested that in cases where the population of the taluk headquarters is less than 5,000, the adjoining villages within two miles thereof may be added on to the headquarters, just necessary to make it into a municipality.